

~~On page 11, line 9, after "video bandwidth(", insert currently requiring--~~

In the claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (~~Amended~~) ~~A matrix switch [made up of] comprising a~~  
 plurality of crosspoint switches, characterized in that:  
 the matrix switch includes [defines] upstream  
 connections, downstream connections, and user connections and a  
plurality of switching points in order to provide [and provides]  
 bi-directional switching capability between the upstream and  
 downstream connections, between every user and every upstream  
 connection, between every user and every downstream connection,  
 and between every user and every other user connected to the  
 matrix, wherein the number of switching points is fewer than half  
of NxN, where N equals the number of user connections plus the  
number of upstream connections plus the number of downstream  
connections [while requiring fewer than half of the number of  
 switching points that would be required by a single, standard NxN  
~~crosspoint switch interconnecting all the inputs and outputs],~~

In the abstract:

On line 4 of the abstract, after "switching matrix.", please  
 insert - The switching matrix defines upstream connections,  
 downstream connections, and user connections and a plurality of  
 switching points in order to provide bi-directional switching